

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Amended) An isolated polypeptide consisting of a fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide fragment comprises at least 15 contiguous amino acid residues of an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 selected from the group consisting of: (a) amino acid residues 21 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2, (b) amino acid residues 21 to 210 of SEQ ID NO:2, (c) amino acid residues 22 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2, (d) amino acid residues 22 to 210 of SEQ ID NO:2, (e) amino acid residues 22 to 108 of SEQ ID NO:2, (f) amino acid residues 112 to 210 of SEQ ID NO:2, and (g) amino acid residues 21 to 110 of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claims 2-7 (Previously Canceled)

Claims 8-18. (Canceled)

Claims 19-20. (Previously Cancelled)

Claims 21-42. (Canceled)

Claims 43-46 (Previously Canceled)

47. (Previously Amended) An isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residues as shown in SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acid 22-231 wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide forms a multimeric receptor complex.

Claims 48-49 (Canceled)

50. (Currently Amended) An isolated polypeptide according to claim 47, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide further comprises an affinity tag, chemical moiety, toxin, label, ~~biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, toxin, cytotoxic molecule~~ or an immunoglobulin Fc domain.

51. (Previously Amended) An isolated multimeric soluble receptor complex comprising soluble receptor subunits, wherein at least one of the soluble receptor subunits comprises a soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide comprising a sequence of amino acid residues as shown in SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acid 22-231.

52. (Previously Amended) An isolated multimeric soluble receptor complex according to claim 51, further comprising a soluble Class I or Class II cytokine receptor polypeptide.

53. (Previously Amended) An isolated multimeric soluble receptor complex according to claim 51, further comprising a soluble CRF2-4 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:35), a soluble IL-10 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:36), or soluble zcytor11 receptor polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:34).

Claims 54-66. (Canceled)

67. (Previously Cancelled)

68. (Previously Amended) An isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide receptor complex comprising a sequence of amino acid residues as shown in SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acid 22-231.

69. (Currently Amended) The isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide receptor complex of claim 68, wherein the receptor complex further comprises an affinity tag, label, chemical moiety, toxin, ~~biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, toxin, cytotoxic molecule~~ or an immunoglobulin Fc domain.

70. (Previously Amended) The isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide receptor complex of claim 68, wherein the receptor complex binds IL-TIF (SEQ ID NO:15) or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

Claim 71. (Canceled)

72. (Previously added) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: (a) amino acid residues 21 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2, (b) amino acid residues 22 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2, and (c) amino acid residues 1 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2.

73. (Previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 72, wherein the polypeptide consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: (a) amino acid residues 21 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2, (b) amino acid residues 22 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2, and (c) amino acid residues 1 to 231 of SEQ ID NO:2.

74. (Previously added) An isolated polypeptide consisting of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: (a) amino acid residues 21 to 210 of SEQ ID NO:2, (b) amino acid residues 22 to 210 of SEQ ID NO:2, (c) amino acid residues 22 to 108 of SEQ ID NO:2, (d) amino acid residues 112 to 210 of SEQ ID NO:2, and (e) amino acid residues 21 to 110 of SEQ ID NO:2.

75. (Previously added) A fusion protein, comprising the polypeptide of claim 72, wherein the fusion protein binds IL-TIF (SEQ ID NO:15) or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

76. (Previously added) The fusion protein of claim 75, wherein the fusion protein further comprises an immunoglobulin moiety.

77. (Previously added) A fusion protein, comprising the polypeptide of claim 73.

78. (Previously added) The fusion protein of claim 77, wherein the fusion protein further comprises an immunoglobulin moiety.

79. (Previously added) A fusion protein, comprising the polypeptide of claim 74.

80. (Previously added) The fusion protein of claim 79, wherein the fusion protein further comprises an immunoglobulin moiety.

81. (Currently Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 72, wherein the polypeptide further comprises an affinity tag, label, chemical moiety, toxin, ~~biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, toxin, cytotoxic molecule~~ or an immunoglobulin Fc domain

82. (Currently Amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 73, wherein the polypeptide further comprises an affinity tag, label, chemical moiety, toxin, ~~biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, toxin, cytotoxic molecule~~ or an immunoglobulin Fc domain

83. (Previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 72, wherein the polypeptide binds IL-TIF (SEQ ID NO:15) or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

84. (Previously added) The isolated polypeptide of claim 81, wherein the polypeptide binds IL-TIF (SEQ ID NO:15) or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

85. (Previously added) The isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide of claim 47, wherein the receptor complex binds IL-TIF (SEQ ID NO:15) or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

86. (Previously added) The isolated soluble multimeric soluble receptor complex of claim 51, wherein the receptor complex binds IL-TIF (SEQ ID NO:15) or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

87. (Newly Added) An isolated polypeptide according to claim 51, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide further comprises an affinity tag, chemical moiety, toxin, label, or an immunoglobulin Fc domain.

88. (Newly Added) An isolated polypeptide according to claim 52, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide further comprises an affinity tag, chemical moiety, toxin, label, or an immunoglobulin Fc domain.

89. (Newly Added) An isolated polypeptide according to claim 53, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide further comprises an affinity tag, chemical moiety, toxin, label, or an immunoglobulin Fc domain.